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IP Law Department
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In re Application of :
FREER et al. :
U.S. Application No.: 10/532,252 : DECISION ON PETITION
PCT No.: PCT/GB03/04542 : UNDER 37 CFR 1.47(a)
Int. Filing Date: 22 October 2003 :
Priority Date: 23 October 2002 :
Attorney Docket No.: 102.0002US/PCT :
For: SIGNALING METHOD AND :
APPARATUS :

This decision is in response to applicants' "Renewed Petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) To Accept Application Without the Signature of Joint Inventor" filed 15 November 2005, which is being treated as a petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) to accept the application without the signature of joint-inventor, Alex Watt.

BACKGROUND

On 22 October 2003, applicants filed international application PCT/GB03/04542 which claimed a priority date of 23 October 2002. A copy of the international application was communicated to the United States Patent and Trademark Office from the International Bureau on 06 May 2004. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.495, the thirty-month period for paying the basic national fee in the United States expired at midnight on 23 April 2005.

On 21 April 2005, applicants filed a transmittal letter for entry into the national stage in the United States, which accompanied by, inter alia: the requisite basic national fee as required by 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1); a preliminary amendment; and a Petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a). In a decision dated 15 September 2005, applicants' petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) was dismissed without prejudice.

On 15 November 2005, applicants filed the present renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a).

DISCUSSION

A petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) must be accompanied by: (1) the fee under 37 CFR 1.17, (2) factual proof that the missing joint inventor refuses to execute the application or cannot be reached after diligent effort, (3) a statement of the last known address of the

missing inventor, and (4) an oath or declaration by each 37 CFR 1.47(a) applicant on his or her own behalf and behalf of the nonsigning joint inventor. Items (1); (3); and (4) have been satisfied.

A review of the present petition and the accompanying papers reveal that applicant has satisfied item (2), in that the applicants have shown that a bona fide attempt was made to present the application papers, including the specification, claims, and drawings to Alex Watt. The steps taken by Wayne Kanak are sufficient to show that the nonsigning inventor refuses to execute the application. Accordingly, it is appropriate to accord the national stage application status under 37 CFR 1.47(a).

CONCLUSION

The renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) is **GRANTED**.

The application will be given an international filing date of 22 October 2003 under 35 U.S.C. 363, and a date of **15 November 2005** under 35 U.S.C. 371(c).

As provided in 37 CFR 1.47(a), a notice of the filing of this application will be forwarded to the nonsigning inventor at his last known address of record. A notice of the filing of the application under 37 CFR 1.47(a) will be published in the Official Gazette.

This application is being returned to the United States Designated/Elected Office for processing in accordance with this decision.



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For: SIGNALING METHOD AND APPARATUS

Dear Alex Watt:

You are named as an inventor in the above identified United States patent application, filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.47(a) and 35 U.S.C. 116. Should a patent be granted, you will be designated as an inventor.

As a named inventor, you are entitled to inspect any paper in the file wrapper of the application, order copies of all or any part thereof (at a prepaid cost per 37 CFR 1.19) or to make your position of record in the application. Alternatively, you may arrange to do any of the preceding through a registered patent agent or attorney presenting written authorization from you. If you care to join in the application, counsel of record (see below) would presumably assist you. Joining in the application would entail the filing of an appropriate oath or declaration by you pursuant to 37 CFR 1.63.

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